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 JMA/AMEMBASSY MANILA 3079
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 RUMJFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 0907
 RUMJRV/AMEMBASSY RANGOON 0233
 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 2621
 RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 4516
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 BT
 C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01925 COMBINED SECTION

E.O. 12065: GDS 6/4/87 (GLEVSTEEN, DIRK) OR-P
 TAGS: UN, VAN, ASEAN, PORC
 SUBJECT: ASEAN CONSULTATIONS ON KAMPUCHEA CONFERENCE
 FORMAT

REF: USUN 1863

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY:

ASEAN HOSTED MEETINGS ON JUNE 3 WITH DELEGATIONS WHICH

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State Dept. review completed

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VOTED IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION 35/6 TO BRING THEM UP TO DATE ON PREPARATIONS FOR KAMPUCHEA CONFERENCE AND TO ASCERTAIN THEIR VIEWS ON CONFERENCE FORMAT. CONSENSUS EMERGED APPROVING JULY 13 OPENING DATE AND NEW YORK VENUE. GENERAL DEBATE WITH REMARKS LIMITED TO 10-15 MINUTES ESTABLISHING SMALL DRAFTING COMMITTEE AT CONFERENCE TO PREPARE AS YET UNDETERMINED FINAL DOCUMENT AND SOME KIND OF FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM TO CONFERENCE. ONLY DISAGREEMENT WAS OVER INVITATIONS TO KAMPUCHEAN "CONFLICTING PARTIES", WITH PRC AND DK OPPOSED TO APPARENT MAJORITY FAVORING INVITING HENG SAMRIN AS WELL AS SON SANN AND SIHANOUK. DK DELEGATE ALSO BROACHED POSSIBILITY THAT SON SANN AND SIHANOUK, WOULD BE SEATED WITH DK IF UNITED FRONT CAN BE FORMED DATE CONFERENCE CONVENES. FIVE ASEAN PERMREPS ALL REPORTEDLY FIRM UP THEIR PROPOSALS FOR CONFERENCE DURING MEETINGS IN BANGKOK JUNE 9-10, AND SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO ASEAN MINISTERS IN MANILA FOR CONSIDERATION BY EXPANDED MINISTERIAL. END SUMMARY.

3. ASEAN MEETINGS WERE HELD IN TWO SHIFTS TO ACCOMMODATE LARGE NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS (97) WHICH VOTED IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION 35/6. TOTAL OF 58 DELEGATIONS SENT REPRESENTATIVES TO ONE OR OTHER MEETING. MAJORITY OF ABSENTEES BEING FROM AFRICAN STATES. ASEAN MISOFFS CONTACTED AFTER MEETINGS CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN SATISFIED WITH TURNOUT ASSERTING THAT AFRICANS RARELY ATTENDED SUCH SESSIONS IN LARGE NUMBERS. SINGAPORE MISOFF SAID HE WAS INCREASINGLY OPTIMISTIC THAT MOST OF NATIONS WHICH VOTED FOR 35/6 WOULD ATTEND CONFERENCE.

4. COUNSELOR GLEYSTEN AND MISOFF ATTENDED MORNING SESSION AND MISOFF LATER RECEIVED READOUT ON AFTERNOON SESSION FROM INDONESIAN AND SINGAPORE MISOFFS. PHILLIPINE PERMREP VANGO CHAIRED MEETINGS AND ASEAN PERMREPS PROVIDED AGENDA. ALTHOUGH ASEANS SAID MEETINGS WERE DESIGNED TO ELICIT VIEWS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS, THEIR ISSUES DOMINATED BOTH SESSIONS. FOLLOWING POINTS WERE DISCUSSED:

1. DATE AND VENUE - THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS TO OPENING

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THE CONFERENCE ON JULY 13 IN NEW YORK.

-- INVITATIONS - CONSENSUS FAVORED SYG WALDHEIM'S ALSO INVITING COUNTRIES WHICH RESPOND LATE TO HIS NOTE ON CONFERENCE (REFTEL). MOST REPS (INCLUDING US) INDICATED THEY WOULD ACCEPT CONFERENCE INVITING KAMPUCHEAN "CONFLICTING PARTIES" (HENG SAMRIN, SON SANN AND SIHANNUK) SOON AFTER IT OPENS. AT AFTERNOON SESSION, PRC AND DK DELEGATIONS REPORTEDLY OBJECTED ON GROUNDS THAT HENG REGIME WAS ILLEGITIMATE. IF IT WERE TO ATTEND, IT SHOULD DO SO ONLY AS PART OF VIETNAMESE DELEGATION, THEY SAID. OTHERS AT MEETING REPORTEDLY DENIED INVITATION TO HENG WOULD LEGITIMIZE HIS REGIME. IN ANY CASE, THEY SAID HENG'S PRESENCE IN CAMBODIA WAS "FACT OF LIFE" AND HIS PARTICIPATION WAS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL SOLUTION IN KAMPUCHEA. (SINGAPORE DESOFF SAID LATER HE DOUBTED PRC AND DK WOULD INSIST NOT INVITING HENG IF IT APPEARED THIS WOULD UNDERMINE CONFERENCE CONSENSUS.) TO AVOID QUESTIONS ON DISTINCTION BETWEEN CONFERENCE ATTENDEES INVITED BY SYG AND PARTIES INVITED BY CONFERENCE, NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTATIVE RECOMMENDED INVITATIONS TO BE ISSUED BY CONFERENCE REFER ONLY TO 35/6, WITHOUT CITING STATUS OF INDIVIDUAL PARTIES. CONSENSUS SUPPORTED SETTling THESE QUESTIONS BEFORE CONFERENCE OPENED SO AS NOT TO BOG IT DOWN OVER CREDENTIALS QUESTIONS. DK REPRESENTATIVE REPORTEDLY SAID THERE WAS POSSIBILITY

THAT IT WOULD FORM UNITED FRONT WITH SON SANN AND SIHANNUK PERMITTING ALL THREE TO BE SEATED AS ONE DELEGATION.

-- CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES - CONSENSUS FAVORED CONFERENCE WHICH WAS DESIGNED "NOT TO CORNER THE VIETNAMESE" BUT TO MAKE FIRST STEP TOWARD POLITICAL SOLUTION OF KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM. THERE ALSO APPEARED CLEAR SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF CONFERENCE DOING MORE THAN SIMPLY REAFFIRMING SENTIMENTS OF 35/6.

-- OFFICERS - THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON CONFERENCE SELECTING FIVE OFFICERS (PRESIDENT, THREE VICE PRESIDENTS, ONE RAPPOREUR), ONE EACH FROM THE FIVE UN GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS. SINGAPORE OBSERVED THAT YUGOSLAVS MAY BE ONLY

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EASTERN EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND.

-- CONFERENCE NAME - ALTHOUGH THIS WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL, SINGAPORE MISOFF SAID AFTERWARDS THAT ASEAN NOW FAVORED CONFERENCE ON THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA OR SIMILAR TITLE SINCE VIETNAM DOES NOT APPEAR LIKELY TO ATTEND AND CONFERENCE THEREFORE WILL NOT HAVE TO ADDRESS WIDER SOUTHEAST ASIAN SECURITY QUESTIONS.

-- GENERAL DEBATE - CONSENSUS AGREED ON PERMITTING EACH REPRESENTATIVE 10-15 MINUTES FOR ADDRESS (ALTHOUGH AS JAPANESE REP REPORTEDLY POINTED OUT, THIS SHOULD BE FLEXIBLY ENFORCED SINCE MANY FONMINS ATTENDING MAY WISH TO SPEAK LONGER). BOTH GROUPS WERE ALSO INCLINED TO MIT "CONFLICTING PARTIES" GREATER LENGTH.

INDONESIANS EXPRESSED FEAR THAT GENERAL DEBATE COULD "HEAT UP ATMOSPHERE" SURROUNDING KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM BUT ACKNOWLEDGED PROBABILITY THAT GENERAL DEBATE AT SUCH A CONFERENCE WAS "INEVITABLE".

-- DRAFTING COMMITTEE - SINGAPORE AND THAI PERMREPS PROPOSED CONFERENCE SETUP SMALL DRAFTING COMMITTEE WHICH COULD PREPARE FINAL DOCUMENT AS WELL AS CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH VIETNAMESE SHOULD THEY DECIDE TO ATTEND. OTHER DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED AGREEMENT, BUT PROCEDURE AND MEMBERSHIP WAS NOT DISCUSSED. AT AFTERNOON SESSION, SOME DELEGATIONS REPORTEDLY SUGGESTED INFORMAL WORKING GROUP BE SET UP EVEN BEFORE DRAFTING COMMITTEE WAS FORMED, AND THAT FINAL DOCUMENT DRAFTS BE PREPARED BEFORE CONFERENCE OPENED.

-- FINAL DOCUMENT - THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT FAVORING CONFERENCE PRODUCING FINAL DOCUMENT, BUT NO DECISION ON WHETHER IT SHOULD BE A RESOLUTION, DECLARATION, REPORT OR OTHERWISE. CONTENT OF REPORT WAS NOT DISCUSSED. BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE RAISED PROPOSAL THAT CONFERENCE COMMISSION STUDIES TO BE SUBMITTED TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR BY SYG TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOLLOWING CONFERENCE. HE NOTED THIS WOULD PROVIDE CONTINUITY FOR CONFERENCE BEYOND JULY SESSION AND OPPORTUNITY TO RECONVENE AT APPROPRIATE TIME. SINGAPORE MISOFF NOTED 35/6 MANDATED SYG TO REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION, WHICH PROVIDED RATIONALE FOR COMMISSIONING STUDIES OR REPORTS.

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-- BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS - IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON WHETHER COMMUNICATIONS WITH VIETNAMESE WERE CONTINUING, THAI PERMREP ANNOUNCED THAT THAI DEPFONMIN HAD JUST CONCLUDED MEETING WITH HIS VIETNAMESE COUNTERPART IN RANGOON, WHICH DEMONSTRATED THAT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WOULD CONTINUE, ALTHOUGH NOT AS SUBSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

5. YANGN TOLD PARTICIPANTS THEIR VIEWS WOULD BE CONVEYED TO ASEAN MINISTERS AT JUNE EXPANDED MINISTERIAL, WHERE ASEAN WOULD BE FINALIZING ITS PROPOSALS. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, SINGAPORE MISOFF TOLD US THAT FIVE ASEAN PERMREPS HAD BEEN INVITED TO VISIT THAILAND JUNE 9-10 TO SURVEY THAI-KAMPUCHEA BORDER AND TO CONSULT ON CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS. PERMREPS WOULD THEN PROCEED TO MANILA TO PRESENT PROPOSALS TO ASEAN MINISTERS. SINGAPORE MISOFF SAID HE EXPECTED ASEAN MINISTERS WOULD BE RAISING THESE PROPOSALS WITH SECRETARY HAIG AND OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS DURING MANILA MEETINGS.

6. COMMENT: WITH CONFERENCE A LITTLE MORE THAN ONE MONTH AWAY, ASEAN THINKING ON CONFERENCE FORMAT AND AGENDA REMAIN SKETCHY. HOWEVER, ABSENCE OF OPPOSITION TO ASEAN'S BASIC APPROACH TO CONFERENCE (WITH

THE EXCEPTION OF INVITATIONS TO HENG SAMRIN) HAVE APPARENTLY BOLSTERED CONFIDENCE OF ASEAN MISSIONS HERE IN THEIR ABILITY TO STEER CONFERENCE IN DESIRED DIRECTIONS AND OBTAIN PARTICIPATION OF BULK OF DELEGATIONS WHICH VOTED IN FAVOR OF 35/6.
LICHENSTEIN

OF MESSAGE

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